

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## **CRC Article 29(goals of education)**

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

## **Computing Policy**

### **Aims and Objectives**

Through teaching Computing we equip children to participate in a rapidly changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed by technology. We enable them to find, explore, analyse and exchange and present information. We also focus on developing the skills necessary for children to be able to use information in a critical and effective way. Computing skills are a major factor in enabling children to be confident, creative and independent learners.

Our Aims Are:

To provide all pupils and staff with opportunities to develop their computing capabilities.

To allow pupils and staff to gain confidence and enjoyment from their computing activities and to develop skills which extend and enhance their learning throughout the curriculum.

To develop pupils' awareness of the use of computers not only in the classroom but in everyday life.

To allow pupils to evaluate the potential of computers and also their limitations e.g. to learn about issues of security, confidentiality and accuracy.

To develop logical thinking and problem solving.

To provide opportunities for pupils to gain knowledge of a variety of computing tools and equipment.

To encourage pupils to become autonomous, independent, users of computing both as a learning resource and as a discipline in its own right.

To develop a whole school approach to computing ensuring continuity and progression.

### **Teaching and Learning Style**

An interactive and practical teaching style should be adopted to equip children with the skills necessary to use technology to become independent learners. This should be achieved by:

Assisting the pupils to use computing with purpose and enjoyment.

Assisting the pupils to develop the necessary skills to make full use of computing.

Encouraging the pupils to become autonomous users of computing.

Helping the pupils to realise the benefits of computing both inside and outside school.

Meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum as full as possible and helping the pupils achieve the highest standards of achievement.

Using computing to develop partnerships outside the school.

Celebrating success in the use of computing.

### **Effective Teaching will Need:**

A planned approach to extend the learning activity as an integrated part of the curriculum.

Give pupils a clear objective when using the internet.

A resource bank of suitable sites.

Vigilant supervision of pupils when using the internet.

While at times children will be given direct instruction on how to use hardware and software, the main emphasis of our teaching in computing is for children to use a range of software and hardware to facilitate study across the curriculum. Children will be encouraged to explore ways in which the use computing can improve their work.

### **Computing Curriculum Planning**

Computing is taught with the aid of the Switch on ICT Scheme in EYFS and the Switched on Computing Scheme in KS1 and 2. This is supported and supplemented with other resources on the DVRC and in RM Unify.

Our medium term computing plans are based on the computing topics listed on the long term plan. They ensure an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term.

**English:** Computing is a major contributor to the teaching of English, for example pupils' reading development is supported through talking stories. As the pupils develop mouse and keyboard skills, they learn how to edit and revise text on a computer. They have the opportunity to develop their writing skills by communicating with people via e-mail. They also learn how to improve the presentation of their work by using desktop publishing software. There is also a variety of software that targets specific reading, grammar and spelling skills.

**Maths:** Pupils use computing in mathematics to collect data, make predictions, analyse results and present information graphically. Screen robots allow pupils to give exact instructions for a particular route or to use their knowledge of angles to draw a range of polygons. Microsoft Excel is used to support data handling. Staff and pupils make use of a variety of software that supports learning. Education City is a website the school subscribes to that also supports the mathematics curriculum.

**Science:** Software is used to animate and model scientific concepts and to allow pupils to investigate processes that it would be impracticable to do directly in the classroom. Data loggers are used to assist in the collection of data and in producing tables and graphs.

### **The Foundation Stage**

Computing in the Foundation Stage is taught as an integral part of the work covered during the year. As the Reception class follows the Foundation Stage Curriculum we relate the computing aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. The children have the opportunity to use the computers, Beebots, tape recorders and a digital camera. Throughout the year the children gain in confidence and use the computer to find information and to communicate in a variety of ways.

The online learning journal 2Simple is used to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage, to build a record of the child's experience during their time with us. Teaching Computing to Children with **Special Educational Needs** At our school we teach computing to all children, whatever their ability. Computing forms part of our school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education for all children.

Through our computing teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. Specialised access software and hardware will be available for pupils with special educational needs and consideration should be given to the most appropriate input device for all pupils but especially those with special needs, such as tablets.

## **Differentiation**

Differentiation is achieved through differentiated activities and differentiated learning outcomes.

## **Assessment and Recording**

Teachers assess children's work in computing by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. On completion of a piece of work the teacher marks it and comments as necessary. Children are encouraged to evaluate their own work. Assessment in computing allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels.

Monitoring of the standards of children's work in computing is the responsibility of the Computing Co-ordinator. Children's work is evidenced on the shared network and is monitored termly.

## **Equal Opportunities**

All pupils should have the opportunity to develop computing capability.

We ensure that all our pupils:

Have equal access to computing resources; we provide times in the week when pupils who do not have access to the internet or a computer can access these to complete homework or visit educational websites.

Have equal opportunities to develop computing capability.

Use software that is appropriate to their ability.

## **Security**

All networked computers, including laptops, have filtered internet access. All staff should review and evaluate resources available on web sites to ensure that they are appropriate to the age range and ability of pupils being taught.

The school's computers should not be used at any time for downloading, copying or storing illicit or offensive material, nor should video, music or other files which take up a large amount of space be stored on our server. People wishing to download and copy large files to a CD should discuss it with the Computing Co-ordinator.

Nobody should attempt at any time to install any software of any kind onto the school's network or onto any workstation connected to it, including screensavers. If a member of staff wishes to have software installed the agreement of the Computing Co-ordinator or the Headteacher should be sought first, the licence checked and the relevant media handed to the Computing Coordinator to arrange for installation. All users of the network must be aware that their user areas and individual files may on occasion be accessed by the network administrators and files which contravene any part of this policy may be removed.

All use of the school's computing resources should be in line with this policy and the rules contained in the school's Acceptable Internet Use Policy.

## **Laptops and iPads**

Wireless laptops and iPads bought to support the curriculum are for the use of pupils. Staff are allocated a laptop for home use to complete planning and assessment.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.